

May 19, 2000

FDA Commissioner Jane Henney

5630 Fishers Lane

8406 00 MAY 26 19:58

Room 1061 (HFA-305)

Rockville, MD 20852

RE : Docket No. OOP-1211/CP1

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing to add my comments to the official rulemaking docket (#OOP-1211/CP1) demanding that the FDA develop a thorough pre-market and environmental testing and mandatory labeling for genetically engineered foods.

We have a right to know what is in the food that we are purchasing, as well as how it was produced, that has been refused to us for too long. In 1992, the FDA received thousands of comments from the public demanding mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods, yet the agency refused to act. In fact, the public has overwhelmingly and consistently indicated that they want to know if their food has been genetically engineered.

OOP-1211

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I am also deeply concerned that the government does not require mandatory pre-market safety testing of genetically engineered foods. Without such requirements, we will not know if new toxin

or allergens are being introduced, or if levels of existing toxins in these new foods are increased. Additionally, the effect of using the antibiotic resistant genes in the genetic engineering process remains unclear, and may pose a health risk.

Your recent announcement on this subject as part of the Clinton administration's proposal does not go far enough, and does not serve the public's best interests. I want to be able to make an educated choice about the foods I eat, and that their safety is guaranteed.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Fox  
13778 W. Asbury Cir.  
Lakewood, CO 80228

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